Damage to NH-52 and NH-37 by flood

3143. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1018 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 2002 and state :

(a) the details of the damage caused by flood during 2002 and till July, 2003 to NH-52 and NH-37;

(b) the details of the damage repaired and proposed to be repaired to attain at least 60 kmh speed from the present average speed of 30 kmh;

(c) the total allocations made towards replacement of wooden bridge, strengthening and widening of National Highways and target fixed for such improvement, year-wise and sector-wise during Tenth Plan period;

(d) whether the flood damages are compensated from other sources of funding; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) NH-52 and 37 got damaged in the form of potholes, disintegration of road pavement, breach of embankments, washing away of bridges and culverts etc.

(b) Damage caused during floods of 2002 have been attended to and the road made traffic worthy. In order to immediately restore the flood damages of 2003, an amount of Rs. 100.00 lakh has been released to Government of Assam. Further restoration of flood damages on National Highways shall be carried out based on the assessment of damages as per ground conditions and overall availability of funds.

(c) Development of National Highways is a continuous process. The improvement works including replacement of timber bridges, strengthening and widening are taken up in phases keeping in view of priority and overall availability of funds. The allocation made for the development of National Highways in the State of Assam during Tenth Five Year Plan so far, year-wise is as follows :—

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crore)
2002-03	157.37
2003-04	144.45

(d) No, Sir. The flood damages are repaired from the non-plan funds.

(e) Does not arise.

Transportation facilities in Northern States

3144. DR. A. R. KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to facilitate the transportation of goods from the landlocked Northern States to the major ports of the country, Government have laid down schemes to improve road connectivity to ten ports in the country;

(b) if so, the concrete steps considered in this regard;

(c) by what time these projects are likely to be completed;

(d) whether the original plan to complete these projects was December, 2003; and

(e) if so, to what extent it would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Government has planned to improve road connectivity to ten major ports in the country from the nearest National Highway.

(b) The port road connectivity projects are being undertaken through Special Purpose Vehicles in which the equity of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is restricted to be 30% of the estimated cost of the project. Detailed Project Report preparation has been done. Mobilisation of necessary funds has been finalised. Construction work has been awarded for four ports.

(c) The work on ongoing four port connectivity projects is likely to be completed by March, 2005. The award of work on other six port connectivity projects will depend upon suitable tie-up of funds for balance 70% funds to be arranged from sources other than NHAI. The contract period of civil work would be 30 months.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Mumbai-Pune Expressway

3145. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: